February 2014


Western Theological Seminary

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Papers, 1916-1959. 0.50 linear ft.

Abstract

Joseph J. Werkman received degrees from Calvin College (1915) and Calvin Theological Seminary (1918). He served as the pastor for the Christian Reformed Church of Volga, South Dakota (1918-1923), Christian Reformed Church of Oak Harbor, Washington (1923-1928), Christian Reformed Church of Bellflower, California (1928-1934), and as the first pastor of the Bethel Reformed Church of Bellflower, California (1935-1942). Rev. Werkman continued to preach at Bethel into the 1950s, and served as interim pastor at Artesia Reformed Church of Artesia, California, ca. 1955-1956. In the 1950s, he also preached at the Calvary Reformed Church of Ripon, California, and at Chino Mission. His earliest sermons (1916-1929) were preached in Canada, various Michigan cities, and at Volga, South Dakota. The collection contains mainly sermons, most in English, with some in Dutch. Also lectures, sermon outlines, pastoral records, catechisms, and obituaries added to funeral sermons.

Accession No: W98-1231.5
Provenance: Joseph J. Werkman
Donor: Cal Bensema
Processed by: David Andrews, November 2001

Biography

Joseph J. Werkman was born in Muskegon, Michigan, on August 15, 1889. He received degrees from Calvin College (1915) and Calvin Theological Seminary (1918).

He served as the pastor for the Christian Reformed Church of Volga, South Dakota, (1918-1923), Christian Reformed Church of Oak Harbor, Washington (1923-1928), Christian Reformed Church of Bellflower, California (1928-1934), and as the first pastor of the Bethel Reformed Church of Bellflower, California (1935-1942).

Werkman continued to preach at Bethel into the 1950s, and served as interim pastor at Artesia Reformed Church of Artesia, California, ca. 1955-1956. In the 1950s, he also preached at the Calvary Reformed Church of Ripon, California, and at Chino Mission. His earliest sermons (1916-1929) were preached in Canada, various Michigan cities, and at Volga, South Dakota.

Joseph J. Werkman passed away on February 3, 1967.

Scope and Content

Sermons, most in English, with some in Dutch. Also lectures, sermon outlines, pastoral records, catechisms, and obituaries added to funeral sermons. Note that dated sermons are filed by noted date of first use, and may have been used at later noted or unspecified dates.
Container List

Catechisms, 1925, 1930-1932, 1934, 1936
Lectures and Speeches, 1926, n.d.
Sermons
  1916, 1918
  1920-1922, 1924-1925, 1927, 1929
  1930-1936
  1948, 1952-1956, 1959
  n.d. (2 folders)
Sermons and Pastoral records, 1957, n.d.
Sermon Outlines, n.d.
Sermon Outlines and Pastoral Records, 1952-1956